Virginia Green Lodging is the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) initiative to promote pollution prevention (P2) practices in the tourism and hospitality industry. *Green Lodging* encourages hotels, resorts, and other hospitality operations to be aware of their impact on the environment and to take steps to reduce these impacts. *Green Lodging* is a non-regulatory program, and participation is completely voluntary and free of charge.

Virginia Green Lodging Profile:

Foster Harris House

Bed & Breakfast

Washington, Virginia

Foster Harris House Bed and Breakfast is located at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Rappahannock County, just steps from the Inn at Little Washington. Foster Harris House features five guest rooms. Foster Harris House is committed to environmental excellence and works to minimize environmental impacts whenever possible.

Green Lodging Activities. When visiting Foster Harris House, you can expect the following practices:

🌍 **Optional Linen Service**
🌍 **Recycling**
🌍 **Water Conservation**
🌍 **Energy Conservation**
🌍 **Green Events Package**

The Foster Harris House in late summer

Optional Linen Service
- Train house cleaners on process of optional linen service
- Purchase water efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic, biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Use linens and service providers that employ "wet" versus "dry" cleaning

Recycling
- Recycle glass, aluminum cans, plastic, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, and electronics equipment

Waste Reduction
- Refill bulk soap dispensers instead of using individual soaps
- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items
- Eliminate use of Styrofoam

- Use dishware and glassware to minimize use of disposables
- Disposable containers made from recycled content
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Donation of excess food from events
- Implement effective food inventory system to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown, organic, sustainably-grown produce and other foods
- Purchasing from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Use "green" cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Use latex paint
- Reuse paint thinners and recycle/dispose of thinners and solvents properly
- Use preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing and vehicles
- Effective inventory system and labeling of last-in/first-out
- Use least toxic materials
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides

Water Conservation
- Tracking overall water usage and wastewater
- Preventative maintenance of drips and leaks
- Use dry clean up methods over water-based methods and use microfiber mops
- Low flow toilets
- Effective landscape management plan
- Minimization of impervious areas
- Vegetative buffers around streams and ponds

Energy Conservation
- Track overall energy bills and set a numeric goal to reduce
- Use high efficiency compact fluorescent light bulbs in rooms and spotlights
- Use high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps
- Have High Efficiency Heating & Air Conditioning and use ceiling fans
- Use natural lighting whenever possible
- Purchase EnergyStar computers and appliances
- Thermal rated windows and insulation
- Ride bicycles to get around town and rent bicycles for sightseeing

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For more information on **Foster Harris House**, see
www.FosterHarris.com .

For more information on *Virginia Green Lodging* program, see
www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging.

Virginia Green Lodging program is a supporting partner of *Virginia Green,* the Commonwealth's campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices is all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.